

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 13, 16 and 17 and add new claims 18 and 19.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1        1. (Currently amended) A household appliance ~~such as a~~  
2 ~~dishwasher, a washing machine, or similar apparatus,~~ for washing  
3 clothes or dishes having an addition unit for adding cleansing  
4 agent to a cleaning liquid, wherein the improvement comprises an  
5 addition unit (9) having a solid cleansing holding receptacle  
6 (24) connected by a pressure line (7) to a rinsing pump (2) to  
7 deliver a wash liquid to the solid cleansing holding receptacle  
8 (24) in the addition unit (9) wherein a solid cleansing agent is  
9 gradually dissolved in repeated washing cycles and wherein each  
10 of said repeated washing cycles and said wash liquid for removing  
11 removes all or a part of said cleansing agent disposed in said  
12 addition unit or until all of said solid cleansing agent is used.

1        2. (Previously presented) The household appliance

2 according to Claim 1 further comprising a suction line (17) of  
3 the rinsing pump (16) connected to a liquid reservoir (15).

1 3. (Currently amended) The household appliance according  
2 to claim 1 ~~or 2 characterized in that~~ wherein the suction line  
3 (6) of the rinsing pump (2) is connected with a line or a  
4 collection basin (5) for ~~cleaning~~ the wash liquid.

1 4. (Currently amended) The household appliance according  
2 to claim 1 wherein said rinsing pump is a circulation pump (2)  
3 for said addition unit (9) and for circulating the ~~cleaning~~ wash  
liquid in the operation of the household appliance.

1 5. (Currently amended) The household appliance according  
2 to claim 1 or 4 further comprising a delivery line (7) branching  
3 off from a liquid circuit of cleaning liquid to deliver a partial  
4 flow of ~~cleaning~~ wash liquid (7) into the addition unit for  
5 removing all or part of said cleansing agent.

1        6. (Currently amended) The household appliance according  
2 to claim 1 or 4 further comprising an on-off valve (8) for  
3 connecting the addition unit (9) with a liquid circuit of the  
4 ~~cleaning~~ wash liquid.

1        7. (Previously presented) The household appliance  
2 according to claim 1 or 4 further comprising a control unit (11)  
3 for dispensing a partial quantity of the cleansing agent located  
4 in the addition unit (9).

1        8. (Previously presented) The household appliance  
2 according to claim 1 further comprising an on-off valve (16) and  
3 a control unit (11) for a time-dependent switching of the on-off  
4 valve and a dispensing unit (12) for dispensing a partial  
5 quantity of the cleansing agent disposed in the addition unit  
6 (9).

1        9. (Currently amended) The household appliance according  
2 to claim 8 further comprising a flowmeter (15) for a quantity-  
3 dependent switching of the on-off valve (16).

1        10. (Previously presented) The household appliance  
2 according to claim 1 further comprising a dispensing unit (12)  
3 and a temperature sensor.

1        11. (Previously presented) The household appliance  
2 according to claim 1 further comprising a dispensing unit (12)  
3 and a sensor (10) for determining the concentration of the  
4 cleansing agent.

1        12. (Previously presented) The household appliance  
2 according to claim 11 wherein the sensor (10) is connected with  
3 the liquid exiting from the addition unit (9) to determine the  
4 concentration of the cleansing agent.

1        13. (Currently amended) The household appliance according  
2 to claim 11 wherein the sensor (10) is connected to the ~~cleaning~~  
3 wash liquid for measuring the concentration of the cleansing  
4 agent in the household appliance during the cleaning process.

1        14. (Previously presented) The household appliance  
2 according to claim 11 wherein the sensor (10) is a conductance  
3 sensor.

1        15. (Previously presented) The household appliance  
2 according to claim 11 wherein the sensor (10) for determining the  
3 cleansing agent concentration also controls other functions of  
4 the household appliance.

1        16. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~such as a dishwasher,~~  
2 ~~washing machine or similar appliance~~ for washing dishes or

3 clothes comprising:

4 (a) an addition unit (9) having a solid cleansing holding  
5 receptacle for holding a solid cleansing agent gradually  
6 dissolved in repeated washing cycles in a household apparatus for  
7 gradually adding a cleaning agent (25) to a washing liquid;

8 (b) a pump (2) for pumping said washing liquid in said  
9 household apparatus; ~~and~~

10 (c) a conduit (7) connecting said pump with said addition  
11 unit for removing all or part of said cleaning agent disposed in  
12 said addition unit with said washing liquid;

13 (d) a measurement chamber (28) to measure the concentration  
14 of said cleansing agent in said washing liquid; and

15 (e) a control unit (11) to open and close said conduit 7  
16 connecting said pump with said addition unit,

1 17. (Currently amended) A household cleaning apparatus ~~such~~  
2 ~~as a dishwasher, washing machine or similar appliance~~ comprising:

3 (a) a cleaning agent addition unit having a solid cleansing  
4 holder receptacle for holding a solid cleansing agent gradually  
5 dissolved in repeated washing cycles;

6 (b) a pump for pumping a washing liquid in a first liquid  
7 circuit in a household cleaning apparatus;

8 (c) a conduit connecting said pump and said washing liquid

9 with said cleaning agent addition unit to provide a second liquid  
10 circuit in said household cleaning appliance and provide the only  
11 way to gradually dissolve said solid cleansing agent;

12 (d) an on-off valve disposed between said pump and said  
13 cleaning agent addition unit;

14 (e) a control unit operating said on-off valve; and

15 (f) a sensor for measuring the concentration of a cleaning  
16 agent in said household cleaning apparatus and for providing data  
17 to said control unit to open and close said on-off valve and use  
18 said washing liquid to gradually dissolve said cleansing agent.

1 18. (New) A method of washing dishes or clothes in a  
2 household appliance comprising:

3 (a) utilizing a solid cleansing agent that is gradually  
4 dissolved in repeated washing cycles in an addition unit;

5 (b) pumping a wash liquid in a household appliance to  
6 clean clothes or dishes contained therein;

7 (c) diverting a portion of said wash liquid to dissolve  
8 said solid cleansing agent;

9 (d) employing a sensor to measure concentration of said  
10 solid cleansing agent in said wash liquid; and

11 (e) having a control unit for controlling said step of  
12 diverting a portion of said wash liquid in response to said

13 measure of said concentration of said solid cleansing agent in  
14 said wash liquid.

1 19. (New) The method of claim 18 wherein said control unit  
2 operates an on-off valve for said step of diverting a portion of  
3 said wash liquid.